Indian as well as foreign registered vessels, are held accountable to the welfare of such Indian seafarers.

(ii) A psychometric test has been introduced at the entry level of officers in maritime training courses, which will help in determining his/her attitude and aptitude for the sea. It assists in taking corrective measures to mentally prepare for rigours of a life at sea.

(iii) The Directorate General of Shipping has also made wide publicity in leading newspapers with regard to the recruitment through the registered Recruitment and Placement Shipping Agents for employment in marine sector.

(iv) A new course module has been formulated to sensitize the trainees with regard to rights of seafarers as laid down under the Merchant Shipping (Recruitment and Placement) Rules, 2005 in all Pre-sea Training Institutes.

(v) The matter has also been taken up with the International Maritime Organization (IMO) with regard to consolidating the international conventions with regard to shipping casualty and making the law stringent to bring around the non-responsible flat state to carry out their responsibility.

(vi) MS Notice No. 5-A has been issued by the D.G.S. This notice requires mandatory reporting and plan of action to deal with casualities involving Indian seafarers on foreign flat ships.

Targets for construction under NHDP II and III

3913. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that under second and third phase of National Highways Development Programme construction work for projects had already started in the year 2005-06 and 2006-07 respectively;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether construction work targeted for these projects was fixed for the above two years;

(d) if so, the targets thereof; and

(e) the percentage of construction completed in comparison to targets in the above two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) and (b) Under National Highways Development Project (NHDP) Phase-II, total contracts aggregating about 4,435 km and 1,144 km were awarded during the years 2005 and 2006 respectively.

Under NHDP Phase-III, total contracts aggregating about 906 Km. and 390 Km. were awarded during the years 2005 and 2006 respectively.

The details are given in the enclosed Statement (*See* below).

(c) to (e) No year-wise targets were fixed during the year 2005 and 2006. However, NHDP Phase-II and Phase-III are targeted for completion by December, 2009 and December, 2013 respectively.

Statement

Details of total contracts awarded during 2005 and 2006 under NHDP Phase II and III

NHDP Phase-II

Year	North-South & East-West Corridor (NS & EW)		Others		Total	
	Number of Contracts	Length (km)	Number of Contracts	Length (km)	Number of Contracts	Length (km)
2003	1	17.8	-	-	1	17.8
2004	2	62.6	-	-	2	62.6
2005	106	4,172.55	7	262.09	113	4,434.64
2006	26	940.21	3	204	29	1144.21
2007	2	104.475	-	-	2	104.475
Total	137	5,297.64	10	466.09	147	5,763.73
Balance for Award	24	860	1	20	25	880
Grand Total	161	6,157.635	11	486.09	172	6,643.725

NHDP Phase-III

Year	NHDP Phase-IIIA	
	Number of Contracts	Length (km)
2005	15	905.98
2006	5	389.797
2007	7	470.854
Total	27	1,766.631
Balance for Award	-	2,203
Grand Total	-	3,970

Status reports of NHAI on projects

†3914. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that month-wise status report regarding construction on various projects under construction is submitted by National Highways Authority of India (NHAI);

(b) if so, the total number of projects under construction in October, 2006 and by when they had been targeted to be completed;

(c) whether it is also a fact that only of these proejcts could be completed till April, 2007;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the reasons for repeated failure in achieving the targets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The total number of projects under construction in October, 2006 is 218. Month-wise target for completion is given in the enclosed Statement (*See* below).

(c) to (e) Four projects have been completed till April, 2007 and the main reasons for failure in achieving the targets are as under:

(i) Delay in acquisition of land due to procedural formalities, court cases and delay in disbursement of compensation by the Competent Authority to the affected land owners.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.